

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for searching for media content, comprising:

receiving, by a processor and from a user, a user profile which identifies preferred media distribution sources;

receiving, by the processor, a search request from a user including at least one search criteria;

searching, by a processor, a plurality of media distribution source types for media content based on the at least one search criteria and the user profile;

generating, by the processor and from results of the searching, a schedule including scheduling information regarding the media content; and

displaying the schedule to the user.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the media content includes at least one of a video, audio, a still image, printed material, text, a movie, and a television program.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the information regarding the media content includes availability information that indicates availability of media content, which meets the at least one search criteria, from at least one of the preferred media distribution sources.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the availability information includes at least two of movie theater show time data, television broadcast data, and retail data.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the search for media content is performed on at least one database.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the user profile includes at least one of a zip code and a television provider data.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
providing online purchase capabilities such that the user is able to purchase at least one of the media content, tickets to view or hear the media content, and merchandise related to the media content.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of media distribution source types includes at least two of: i) a movie theater source type, ii) a local cable TV or satellite TV provider source type, and iii) a preferred online retailer source type.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the search criteria includes at least one of title data, cast member data, and director data.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information regarding the media content is displayed on at least one of: i) a display associated with a set-top box, ii) a display of a computer arrangement, a TV, a wireless device, and a cell phone.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:
notifying the user in the future when the media content becomes available from at least one of the preferred media distribution sources, if the media content is not currently available from the at least one of the preferred media distribution sources.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:
notifying the user in the future when the media content becomes available from at least one non-preferred media distribution source.

13. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the user is notified via at least one of email, instant message, and postal mail.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:
periodically searching for the availability information related to at least one of the preferred media distribution sources if the media content is not currently available from the at least one of the preferred media distribution sources.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:
requesting a user notification of when the media content becomes available from at least one preferred media distribution source, if the media content is not currently available from the at least one preferred media distribution source.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for providing a user with information regarding media content, comprising:

determining, by a processor, an availability of the media content from a plurality of media distribution sources that are selected in accordance with at least one user selection interpreted based on a user profile, the plurality of media distribution sources including different types of media distribution sources;

generating, by the processor and based on the determination, a schedule including scheduling information regarding the availability of the media content from the plurality of media distribution sources; and

displaying the schedule on a single page.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, further comprising:
allowing a user to request, from the single page, notification in the future when the media content becomes available from at least one of the media distribution sources, if the media content is not currently available from the at least one of the media distribution sources.

18. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a processor;

at least one computing arrangement configured to communicate with the processor via a communications network; and

a hardware-implemented computer-readable storing medium storing a set of instructions, the set of instructions capable of being executed by the processor to implement a method for searching for media content, the set of instructions performing the steps of:

receiving from a user a user profile which identifies preferred media distribution sources;

receiving a search request from a user including at least one search criteria;

searching a plurality of media distribution source types for media content based on the at least one search criteria and the user profile;

generating, from results of the searching, a schedule including scheduling information regarding the media content; and

displaying the schedule to the user.

19. (Previously Presented) A hardware-implemented apparatus comprising:
means for processing;
means for communicating;
means for computing to communicate with the means for processing via the means for communicating; and

means for storing, the means for storing storing a set of instructions executable by the means for processing, the set of instructions, when executed, causing the means for processing to implement a method for searching for media content, the set of instructions performing the steps of:

receiving from a user a user profile which identifies preferred media distribution sources;
receiving a search request from a user including at least one search criteria;
searching a plurality of media distribution source types for media content based on the at least one search criteria and the user profile;
generating, from results of the searching, a schedule including scheduling information regarding the media content; and
displaying the schedule to the user.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
interpreting at least a portion of the at least one search criteria in accordance with the user profile;
wherein the searching is based, at least in part on the interpreting.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein:
the set of instructions performs the step of interpreting at least a portion of the at least one search criteria in accordance with the user profile; and
the searching is based, at least in part on the interpreting.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein:
the set of instructions performs the step of interpreting at least a portion of the at least one search criteria in accordance with the user profile; and
the searching is based, at least in part on the interpreting.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
generating from the results of the searching an intermediate results page including a plurality of media content titles of the results;

wherein the schedule is generated responsive to a selection of one of the titles of the intermediate results page and includes scheduling information exclusively regarding the selected title and pertaining to multiple ones of the plurality of media distribution source types.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the searching is exclusively within content provided by the preferred media distribution sources and is for media content that satisfies the search criteria.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the user profile identifies, for each of a plurality of source types, respective preferred media distribution sources;
the search criteria includes a selection of a subset of the source types; and
responsive to the search request, the searching is performed exclusively within content provided by the preferred media distribution sources of the selected subset of the source types.

26. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for searching for media content, comprising:

receiving, by a processor and from a user, a user profile which identifies preferred media distribution sources;

receiving, by the processor, a search request from a user including at least one search criteria;

searching, by a processor, a plurality of media distribution source types for media content based on the at least one search criteria and the user profile;

generating, by the processor and from results of the searching, a results page including:

a first section having generic information of the results that applies to all of the media distribution source types from which the results were obtained and not including information that is specific to any one of the media distribution source types; and

for each of the media distribution source types from which the results were obtained, a respective second section having information specific to the respective media distribution source type, including all of the results obtained from the respective media distribution source type; and
displaying the results page.

27. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for searching for media content, comprising:

responsive to a request for media content suggestions, periodically:

searching, by a processor, for media content of a plurality of media distribution source types, the searching being in accordance with ~~at least one of~~ a user viewing history ~~and a user purchase history~~; and
displaying results of the search.

28. (Canceled).

29. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for searching for media content, comprising:

receiving, by a processor and from a user, a user profile which identifies preferred media distribution sources which are of a plurality of media distribution source types;

receiving, by the processor, a search request from a user including at least one search criteria;

searching, by a processor, the preferred media distribution sources for media content based on the at least one search criteria and the user profile, wherein the searching includes searching based on the identification of the preferred media distribution sources of the user profile;

if the searching returns results:

generating, by the processor and from the results of the searching, a schedule including scheduling information regarding the media content of the returned results;
and

displaying the schedule to the user; and

if the searching does not return any results:

periodically searching, by the processor, the plurality of media distribution source types for media content, the periodic searching being unconstrained by at least one of the at least one search criteria, the user profile, and the identification of the preferred media distribution sources of the user profile; and

responsive to a return of results by the periodic searching:

generating, by the processor and from the results of the periodic searching, the schedule; and

displaying the schedule to the user.

30. (Canceled).